

For 25 years, Sackton, a Ph.D., has served Arizona State University as honorably as he did our country. He was the founding dean of the College of Public Programs, vice president for business affairs, athletic director, and then professor. Although technically retired, Sackton still teaches a class every semester at ASU. He utilizes his creativity and passion for teaching to create classes that are popular among his students, opting for interactive case studies over the traditional format of textbook reading and lectures.

He also helped secure a brighter environmental and economic future for Arizona, working for three years as Governor Jack Williams' special assistant for energy planning and economic development.

Frank remains committed to contributing to his community. He is active at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, has addressed the Rotary Club on several occasions, and often visits the Children's Center at Scottsdale Healthcare to cheer up the children who are ill.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Frank Sackton on nearly a century of service.

JACK BROWN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jack Brown, of St. Joseph, Missouri. Mr. Brown will retire from the St. Joseph, Missouri Fire Department after an impressive 38-year career with the department.

Chief Brown was named the 15th Fire Chief in the St. Joseph Fire Department's history in September of 2003. Previously he served in many capacities, including Battalion Chief and Captain. Chief Brown is also the recipient of three life-saving awards during his career.

Jack is someone that I developed a personal friendship with, as we had the opportunity to work together on various issues. He is a sincere, honest individual that never wanted any of the accolades; he always felt he was just doing his job. You knew when visiting with Jack that firefighting was not a career, but rather a passion. Chief Brown is a stand-up individual, who will be truly missed by the St. Joseph Fire Department, the St. Joseph community and all those who had the opportunity to work with him.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jack Brown, whose dedication and service to the citizens of St. Joseph, Missouri has been truly exceptional. It is truly an honor to serve Chief Brown in the United States Congress.

HONORING COLONEL RICHARD J. MASON, JR.

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, COL Richard J. Mason, Jr. demonstrated exceptional meritorious service from 30 June 2005

to 10 July 2008 as Commander of Blue Grass Army Depot (BGAD), a 15,000 acre depot in Richmond, Kentucky. He was responsible for the production, receipt, storage, issue, maintenance and demilitarization of conventional munitions.

Serving as the consummate depot commander, Colonel Mason oversaw an organization that supported the troops with ammunition and Chemical Defense Equipment. He safeguarded and ensured the operational readiness of a munitions stockpile while executing the shipping and receiving of over 250,000 short tons of munitions.

As the sole provider chemical personnel equipment, Colonel Mason's untiring efforts to improve support to the troops were superb. By eliminating erroneous shipments to incorrect locations, the cost of transportation was reduced by over 30 percent and ability to provide equipment to soldiers on the battlefield increased significantly without requiring additional manpower. Specifically, Colonel Mason's efforts to support the fielding of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) armor kits to the troops were commendable.

He contributed to the future of the BGAD by developing its first Strategic Business Plan which integrated all aspects of logistics and business processes while providing a clear vision for the Depot's future. He also initiated a continuous business improvement culture across the Depot by improving processes, reducing costs, eliminating waste and improving ergonomics and safety.

A native of Oldtown, Maryland, Colonel Mason arrived at Blue Grass Army Depot in July 2005 as a highly regarded and decorated leader in the Army. Prior to arriving at BGAD, Colonel Mason served as the Chief of Support for Task Force Sinai in El Gora, Egypt among other leadership positions in the United States and Germany. Colonel Mason's Change of Command will take place July 10, 2008.

IN HONOR OF E. PAT LARKINS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true friend and leader who is widely respected, and much loved by the citizens of Pompano Beach, Florida, The Honorable E. Pat Larkins. Pat was born in Pompano Beach in 1942. He graduated Blanche Ely High School in 1960 and enrolled in Tennessee State University. In 1962, he was hired as housing director for the local community action agency, and in 1969, he was one of only two Florida recipients of a Ford Foundation fellowship to attend the National Housing Institute in Washington, DC.

Pat was subsequently certified by HUD as a housing development specialist, and in 1970, he went to work for the Foundation for Co-Op Housing in Chicago, Illinois. In 1972, he returned to Florida and created the Broward County Minority Builders Coalition, Inc. where he still serves as C.E.O. He is also currently president and partner of Malar Construction, State licensed general contractors.

In addition to these accomplishments, Pat has also had a long career in the public sector and has helped to change the face of local

politics. He was the first chairperson of the City of Pompano Beach Community Development Committee. In 1982, he was the second African-American elected to the Pompano Beach City Commission. He was just the eighth African-American local elected official in Broward County and served 19 consecutive years as city commissioner. In that time, he served a record seven terms as mayor and three terms as vice-mayor, positions to which he was elected by his fellow Commissioners. He also served an unprecedented 14 consecutive years on the Broward County Planning Council and was the first African-American chair of that body.

After an unsuccessful run for Broward County Commission in 2001, Pat Larkins was reelected to the Pompano Beach City Commission in 2003 where he presently serves as vice-mayor. Pat is sometimes referred to as the dean of Broward black elected officials because of his remarkable leadership and role as one of the founders of that group.

He is also recognized throughout the State as a leader and spokesperson for minority involvement in government and business. During his time as mayor of Pompano Beach, the city hired the first black fire chief and first black city clerk in Broward County. Pat initiated the city ordinance to promote minority small business concerns, and along with two others, helped to create the first minority business enterprise program for Broward County government.

In addition to his many professional achievements, Pat Larkins has also taken an active role in countless public service, social, and religious organizations. He is a life member of the NAACP, serves on the Broward County Boys and Girls Club corporate board, the Juvenile Justice Intensive Halfway House, and the Florida black caucus local elected officials, and is a longtime member of Hopewell Baptist Church. He is a founding member of the Urban League board, as well as a leader in the Superintendents' Commission on Public Education, National Black Mayors' Conference, and U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Madam Speaker, Pat Larkins has had an indelible impact on the well-being of his community, as he has worked tirelessly to ensure that every individual has access to safe and adequate housing. Under his leadership, Pompano Beach recently demolished a 140-home development that had been rundown and falling apart and relocated the owners to a modern development of affordable homes on an even swap arrangement at a considerable cost savings to the city. Over the past 5 years, he has led his city in providing financial and other assistance that has resulted in the erection of more than 800 affordable multifamily units.

Pat has often said that he wants to be remembered not for his personal longevity, but most of all for helping to improve the lives of others. In this, he has certainly succeeded. Few people I have known have accomplished so much for the good of their fellow citizens and their community. I am fortunate to call him my friend.